

the Army's Proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Israel for defense articles and services (Transmittal No. 98-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

5562. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting notification concerning the Department of the Navy's Proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) to Korea for defense articles and services (Transmittal No. 98-02), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

5563. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the semi-annual report for the period October 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997 listing Voluntary Contributions made by the United States Government to International Organizations, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2226(b)(1); to the Committee on International Relations.

5564. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report on developments concerning the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order No. 12978 of October 21, 1995, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); (H. Doc. No. 105-159); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5565. A letter from the Director, Bureau of the Census, transmitting the Bureau's final rule—Census Tract Program for Census 2000—Final Criteria [Docket No. 961213356-7236-02] received October 21, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

5566. A letter from the Executive Director, Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting the Committee's final rule—Additions to and Deletions from the Procurement List [97-018] received October 20, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

5567. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Trawl Catcher Vessels in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands [Docket No. 961107312-7021-02; I.D. 101497A] received October 20, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5568. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Closure of the Commercial Red Snapper Component [Docket No. 970730185-7206-02; I.D. 093097A] received October 20, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5569. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock by Vessels Catching Pollock for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No. 961107312-7021-02; I.D. 101697A] received October 20, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5570. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, transmitting the Office's final rule—Illinois Regulatory Program [SPATS No. IL-081-FOR] received October 20, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5571. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control,

Drug Enforcement Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Schedules of Controlled Substances Placement of Butorphanol into Schedule IV [DEA-166F] received October 21, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5572. A letter from the Chairman, National Bankruptcy Review Commission, transmitting a report entitled "Bankruptcy: The Next Twenty Years," pursuant to Public Law 103-394; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5573. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Board of Veterans' Appeals: Rules of Practice—Death of Appellant During Pendency of Appeal (RIN: 2900-A186) received October 21, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

5574. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit or abatement; determination of correct tax liability [Rev. Proc. 97-50] received October 22, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5575. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Rulings and determination letters [Rev. Proc. 97-49] received October 22, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5576. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Determination of Issue Price in the Case of Certain Debt Instruments Issued for Property [Rev. Rul. 97-44] received October 20, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

#### ¶118.4 PROVIDING FOR THE

##### CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 97

Mr. DREIER, by direction of the Committee on Rules, called up the following resolution (H. Res. 269):

*Resolved*, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 97) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1998, and for other purposes. The joint resolution shall be considered as read for amendment. The joint resolution shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

When said resolution was considered.

After debate,

By unanimous consent, the previous question was ordered on the resolution to its adoption or rejection and under the operation thereof, the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby said resolution was agreed to was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

#### ¶118.5 FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FY 1998

Mr. LIVINGSTON, pursuant to House Resolution 269, called up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 97) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1998.

When said joint resolution was considered and read twice.

After debate,

The previous question having been ordered by said resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read a third time by title.

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House pass said joint resolution?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SNOWBARGER, announced that the yeas had it.

So the joint resolution was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby said joint resolution was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said joint resolution.

#### ¶118.6 PROVIDING FOR THE

##### CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1534

Mr. MCINNIS, by direction of the Committee on Rules, called up the following resolution (H. Res. 271):

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1534) to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final actions of Federal agencies, or other government officials or entities acting under color of State law; to prevent Federal courts from abstaining from exercising Federal jurisdiction in actions where no State law claim is alleged; to permit certification of unsettled State law questions that are essential to resolving Federal claims arising under the Constitution; and to clarify when government action is sufficiently final to ripen certain Federal claims arising under the Constitution. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(l)(6) of rule XI are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendments printed in part 1 of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except a further amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Representative Conyers of Michigan or his designee, which shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for thirty minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment. If that further amendment is rejected or not offered, then no other amendment shall be in order except the amendment printed in part 2 of the report of the Committee on Rules, which may be offered only by the Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for thirty minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amend-